

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 AGRE-00 IO-13

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /080 W

----- 117759

R 281229Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2805

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DACCA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD

SUBJ: FOOD GRAIN SHIPMENTS TO BANGLADESH

REF: STATE 264316

1. FRG ECONCOOPMIN (VOELZKE) FULLY ACCEPTED U.S. PROPOSALS FOR COORDINATION OF FOOD AID TO BANGLADESH (REFTEL). VOELZKE STATED THAT NO FRG FOOD AID WOULD BE SHIPPED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH THE BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT AND TREVOR PAGE, WHOM VOELZKE DESCRIBED AS THE "RIGHT MAN" TO COORDINATE FOOD AID. VOELZKE ALSO ASSURED US THAT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL

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WOULD BE SENT TO THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN DACCA.

2. VOELZKE, HOWEVER, HAD SEPTEMBER 30 BANGLADESH FOOD MINISTRY FIGURES ON HAND. HE CLAIMED THAT ACCORDING TO THESE FIGURES PRESENT STORAGE CAPACITY WAS 1,019 TONS AND WOULD INCREASE TO 1,169 BY THE END OF THE YEAR. OF THIS, 600 THOUSAND TONS IS ALREADY USED, BUT THE REMAINING CAPACITY WOULD SUFFICE FOR THE LOCAL HARVEST. VOELZKE HAD BEEN AWARE OF SOME PROBLEMS FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER BUT THOUGHT THESE WERE NOW RESOLVED. HE JUDGED AVERAGE SHIPMENTS FOR DECEMBER THROUGH FEBRUARY FROM OUTSIDE DONORS TO BE 150 THOUSAND TONS.

3. FRG PLANS NOW ARE FOR A JANUARY SHIPMENT AND FEBRUARY ARRIVAL OF 40 THOUSAND TONS OF WHEAT. VOELZKE JUDGED THE ARRIVAL OF THIS SHIPMENT TO BE ABOUT RIGHT BASED ON THE REPORTS OF HIS EXPERTS IN BANGLADESH AND THEIR CONTACTS WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES. VOELZKE PROMISED TO REVIEW THIS SCHEDULE AGAIN IN ABOUT A WEEK WHEN A GERMAN AID MISSION TO BANGLADESH RETURNS TO BONN. STOESEL

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